

Serial No. 10/634,193

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (canceled).

Claim 2 (currently amended): The chuck device according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ **8** including a ring attached to the socket, wherein the first elastic element is compressed between the ring and the sleeve.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The chuck device according to claim 2 wherein the sleeve includes an annular rib formed on an internal face, wherein the **first** elastic element is compressed between the ring and the annular rib.

Claim 4 (original): The chuck device according to claim 2 including a ring fit in the sleeve for abutting the ring attached to the socket so as to retain the sleeve on the socket.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The chuck device according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ **8** wherein the socket includes two apertures each defined in one of the facets of the chamber, and a ball is received in each of the apertures.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The chuck device according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ **2** wherein the **first** ring is a C-ring received in an annular groove defined in an external surface of the socket.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The chuck device according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ **8** wherein the ~~second elastic element includes a first section and a second section~~ **of the coil spring contacts** ~~for contact with~~ the tool bit.

Claim 8 (currently amended): ~~[[The]]~~ **A** chuck device ~~according to claim 7 for a tool bit with an annular groove, the chuck device including:~~

a socket defining a chamber for receiving the tool bit and at least one aperture communicated with the chamber;

a spindle extending from the socket;

at least one ball received in the at least one aperture for entering the annular groove of the tool bit;

a sleeve including a chamber in which the socket is movably inserted and an annular groove communicated with the chamber for receiving the at least one ball;

a first elastic element compressed between the socket and the sleeve; and

a second elastic element in the chamber of the socket for pushing the tool bit,

wherein the **second elastic element is a coil spring having a first section and a second section, wherein the** first section of the ~~second elastic element~~ **coil spring** is denser than the

Serial No. 10/634,193

second section of the ~~second elastic element~~ coil spring.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A chuck device for a tool bit with an ~~annular~~ annular groove, the chuck device including:

[[•]] a socket defining a chamber for receiving the tool bit, an annular groove in an external face and at least one aperture through which the chamber is communicated with the annular groove;

[[•]] a spindle extending from the socket;

[[•]] a C-ring received in the annular groove of the socket for entering the annular groove of the tool bit through the at least one aperture;

[[•]] a sleeve including a chamber in which the socket is movably inserted and an annular groove communicated with the chamber for receiving the C-ring;

[[•]] a first elastic element compressed between the socket and the sleeve; and

[[•]] a ~~second elastic element~~ put coil spring in the chamber of the socket for pushing the tool bit, with the coil spring having a first section and a second section, wherein the first section is denser than the second section of the coil spring.

Claim 10 (original): The chuck device according to claim 9 including a ring attached to the socket, wherein the first elastic element is compressed between the ring and the sleeve.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The chuck device according to claim 10 wherein the sleeve includes an annular rib formed on an internal face, wherein the first elastic element is compressed between the ring and the annular rib.

Claim 12 (original): The chuck device according to claim 10 including a ring fit in the sleeve for abutting the ring attached to the socket so as to retain the sleeve on the socket.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The chuck device according to claim 9 wherein the socket includes an internal face with six facets and six corners.

Claim 14 (currently amended): ~~[[The]] A~~ chuck device according to claim 13 for a tool bit with an annular groove, the chuck device including:

a socket defining a chamber for receiving the tool bit, an annular groove in an external face and at least one aperture through which the chamber is communicated with the annular groove;

a spindle extending from the socket;

a C-ring received in the annular groove of the socket for entering the annular

Serial No. 10/634,193

groove of the tool bit through the at least one aperture;

a sleeve including a chamber in which the socket is movably inserted and an annular groove communicated with the chamber for receiving the C-ring;

a first elastic element compressed between the socket and the sleeve; and

a second elastic element in the chamber of the socket for pushing the tool bit

wherein the socket includes an internal face with six facets and six corners, wherein the socket includes six apertures each defined in one of the corners of the internal face of the socket.

Claim 15 (new): The chuck device according to claim 14 including a ring attached to the socket, wherein the first elastic element is compressed between the ring and the sleeve.

Claim 16 (new): The chuck device according to claim 15 wherein the sleeve includes an annular rib formed on an internal face, wherein the first elastic element is compressed between the ring and the annular rib.

Claim 17 (new): The chuck device according to claim 16 including a ring fit in the sleeve for abutting the ring attached to the socket so as to retain the sleeve on the socket.

Claim 18 (new): The chuck device according to claim 14 wherein the second elastic element is a coil spring having a first section and a second section, wherein the first section of the coil spring is denser than the second section of the coil spring.

Claim 19 (new): The chuck device according to claim 18 wherein the second section of the coil spring contacts the tool bit.

Claim 20 (new): The chuck device according to claim 9 wherein the second section of the coil spring contacts the tool bit.